

<sup>17.1</sup> After traveling through Amphipolis and Apollonia, Paul and Silas came into Thessalonica, where there was a synagogue of the Judeans. <sup>2</sup> According to custom, Paul went in to them and on three Sabbaths he addressed them from the writings, <sup>3</sup> opening up and setting down that,

“It is necessary for the Anointed to suffer and to stand up from among the dead,”

and,

“This Jesus I am announcing to you is the Anointed!”

<sup>4</sup> Some from among them were persuaded by and adhered to Paul and Silas, along with a large multitude of the Creator-revering Greeks and a considerable number of the first-rank women. <sup>5</sup> Becoming jealous and taking some evil men from the places of trade and making a crowd, those from the synagogue began disturbing the city. Standing over the house of Jason, they began seeking to bring Paul and Silas out into public. <sup>6</sup> Not finding them, they were dragging Jason and some of the brothers to the city-leaders, crying out,

“These, who are revolting against civilization, are now present here! <sup>7</sup> Jason welcomed them! They are acting against all the Emperor’s decrees! They are saying there is another Ruler, Jesus!”

<sup>8</sup> Hearing these things, the crowd and the city-leaders were agitated <sup>9</sup> and, taking an adequate amount from Jason and the rest, they released them. <sup>10</sup> Immediately, the brothers sent Paul and Silas out, during the night, to Berea.

Coming forth into Berea, Paul and Silas began being in the synagogue of the Judeans. <sup>11</sup> These in Berea were of a better birth than those in Thessalonica and they received the word with all passion, every day judging if the writings had these things as such. <sup>12</sup> Therefore, many from among them, along with a considerable number of Greek women and men of high class, became trusting. <sup>13</sup> When the Judeans from Thessalonica knew that the word of the Creator had also been announced in Berea, they came overthrowing and agitating the crowds. <sup>14</sup> Then, immediately, the brothers sent Paul out to sea while Silas and Timothy remained there. <sup>15</sup> Those put over Paul brought him to Athens. Then Silas and Timothy, after receiving a command to hastily come to Paul, began heading out.

<sup>16</sup> While Paul was waiting to receive them in Athens, the Breath within him was being irritated at seeing that the city was full of human-made gods. <sup>17</sup> Therefore, throughout every day, Paul began addressing the Judeans and those revering the Creator in the synagogue and also those nearby in the place of trade. <sup>18</sup> Some Epicurean and Stoic philosophers also began coming together with Paul. Because Paul was declaring the Gospel of Jesus and the resurrection, some were saying,

“What is this word-maker wanting to say?”

And others,

“He seems to be an announcer of outside animating-forces!”

<sup>19</sup> Taking hold of Paul, they brought him to the Mars Hill Council, saying,

“We have the right to know this new teaching which is being spoken by you! <sup>20</sup> For while staying as our guest, you are bringing some things for our hearing and we desire to know what these things are!”

<sup>21</sup> All those of Athens, even the foreign residents, spend their free-time with nothing other than speaking and listening to what is new. <sup>22</sup> So standing in the middle of the Mars Hill Council, Paul enlightened,

“Men of Athens! I see that through all things you are timid before the animating-forces. <sup>23</sup> While coming through and looking around at the things you revere, I even found a step upon which it is written,

‘To the unknown Creator.’

Therefore, what you are revering unknowingly, this I am announcing to you.

<sup>24</sup> The Creator, who made the world and everything in it, the Lord, who is possessing heaven and earth, does not dwell in temple sanctuaries made by hands. <sup>25</sup> Nor is he begging and being cared for by human hands. He is giving life, breath, and everything to all creatures. <sup>26</sup> From one person he made all nations of humanity to dwell upon the whole face of the earth. He determined the prescribed seasons and the boundaries of their dwelling, <sup>27</sup> so humanity would seek the Creator, indeed even touch and find him. Indeed, the Creator is not far off from possessing each one of us. <sup>28</sup> For through him we are living, moving, and being, as even some of those poets among you have said,

‘For of him, even we are born.’

<sup>29</sup> Therefore, possessing our birth from the Creator, we owe it to not suppose the Creator is like gold, silver, or stone—a mark of human technique and passion. <sup>30</sup> Even though the Creator has been overlooking the times of ignorance, he is now directing all humanity, everywhere, to transform. <sup>31</sup> He has established a day in which he is about to judge civilization with justice, through a man. By this man, he determined trustfulness, providing it to all by standing him up from among the dead.”

<sup>32</sup> After listening about the resurrection of the dead, they began scoffing, but others said,

“We will listen to you again, even about this.”

<sup>33</sup> Thus Paul went out from the middle of them. <sup>34</sup> Some men, joining him, became trusting—among them were Dionysius of the Mars Hill Council, a woman named Damaris, and others with them.